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Our Public Schools Essential In Democracy

This is the heading of Chapter 1 of the copyrighted book, "OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS—CHRISTIAN OR SECULAR" by Dr. Renwick H. Martin. This Chapter is printed in full as follows:

Democracy necessitates the public schools. Our founding fathers were establishing a new kind of government—a government in which the people were to be their own rulers—"a government of the people, by the people, and for the people." The people were to set up their government, determine the ends it was to serve, choose their public officials who, as their servants, were to enact and administer the laws by which they were to be governed. This necessitated the preparation of all the people for the responsibilities of self-government. To insure this they established the public schools. They made education a public responsibility to insure that all American youth would be qualified for the duties and responsibilities of citizenship. This was the origin, and this is the primary purpose, of our great American free public school system.

In proof of this we submit the following testimony from Presidents of the United States and other leaders of our nation:

George Washington:

The time has come when a system of universal education ought to be adopted in the United States. In a country governed by the sense of the community, the people must be enlightened.

John Adams:

It must be the care of the public to educate every rank and class in the practice of their duties as men and citizens.

Thomas Jefferson:

There is no safe deposit of the propensities of government but with the people. A system of general instruction must reach every description of our people from richest to poorest.

James Madison:

People who mean to be their own governors must be educated.

James Monroe:

Every district in all its members must possess the knowledge necessary to qualify them to discharge with credit and effect those great duties of citizens on which government depends.

The national thought of later days, traced for discovery of the purpose of the public schools, finds remarkable adherence to their original design.

Woodbridge M. Ferris,
Former Governor of Michigan:

The people support the public school that it may be a national insurance of democracy.

James A. Garfield:

Next in importance to freedom and justice is popular education without which neither freedom nor justice can be permanently maintained.

Theodore Roosevelt:

A real democracy must see that the chance for an elementary education is open to every man and woman. This is the first essential.

Franklin D. Roosevelt:

Upon our educational system must largely depend the perpetuity of those institutions upon which our freedom and security rest.

ESSENTIAL PREPARATION FOR CITIZENSHIP

Our forefathers believed there were two essential qualifications for citizenship in a democracy:

1. Intelligence. They were agreed that popular intelligence is essential to successful popular government. To insure an intelligent citizenship they included the three R's in the curriculum of the schools.

They also believed there was a more important qualification for citizenship than intelligence, namely;

2. Character. A citizen, they said, might be intelligently capable—bright, keen but morally unfit for citizenship—an Al Capone, dangerous to the state. Consequently, they included a fourth R in the school curriculum. They insisted on an education that would produce honest, upright, virtuous citizens. To insure this they gave the Bible and moral and religious instruction the place of first importance in the schools. With them morality was even more important than intelligence.

There are many proofs of this. One of the most important pieces of legislation ever enacted by Congress was the Ordinance of 1787 for the government of the Northwest Territory, which contained this declaration with reference to education:

> "Religion, morality and knowledge being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged."

Three things are named as essential to "good government" and the order in which they are named is important. First, religion, as of greatest importance; second, morality, which rests upon religion; and third, knowledge, which needs both morality and religion to insure that the increased power knowledge gives will be used for the support of good government rather than against it.

How are these to be imparted to the people? The founding fathers did not say by churches, but by "schools." Certainly they had in mind schools to be established and supported by the state. This Ordinance has rightly been called the Magna Charta of the public schools of our country. While our American tradition forbids an established church and sectarianism in the state's schools, it is crystal clear that it requires the inculcation of religion and morality.

A study of the curriculum of our early public schools affords further proof that moral and religious training to produce upright and virtuous citizens was their dominating purpose and that it continued to be until some seventy-five years ago.

In all this the predominant purpose was to provide a citizenship that would make democracy safe and efficient.

Here is the bedrock on which rest our compulsory education laws, the right of taxing the whole people for the support of our public schools, and the right of giving religious instruction in them.

Our common school system is not based on the doctrine that each child is **entitled** to an education by the state, but on the ground that the child's ignorance would be dangerous to the state. For the same reason the state must teach the child fundamental religious truths in its schools, not because the child should know them in preparation for a future life, but because immorality is perilous to the state and popular morality cannot be secured apart from the sanctions of religion.

The Contribution of our Public Schools to American Democracy

The free public school system of America is one of our greatest achievements—one of the greatest glories of our democracy. Its contribution to our democracy is so great and so many-sided that it is difficult to set it forth in brief compass.

1. It is making a great and necessary contribution in guaranteeing to all American youth an education essential to good citizenship.

2. Important as the public school is in any democracy, it is doubly so in ours. It has the peculiar task of Americanizing the children of many foreigners. We are a people of widely diverse origins, races, and cultures. We have been fashioned out of many nations and from many tongues. The public school is our chief agency in assimilating these diverse peoples and molding them into our American way of life. The remarkable degree of unity which prevails in our American life and culture is largely due to our system of public education.

3. The public school is our chief agency in transmitting from generation to generation our common American heritage—our liberty, freedom, republican form of government—and in developing in American youth an appreciation of this heritage, and loyalty to our country.

4. Furthermore, our schools are making an inestimable contribution to that equality of opportunity which is essential in a democracy. Under our system of free public education the youth of the nation of every station in life—rich and poor, high and low—are provided with an equal opportunity for an education from kindergarten through high school. Here is a family of six children, whose parents are poor in material possessions. In the same school district is another family with one child whose parents are rich in this world's goods. The children of both families attend the same public school, have the same teachers, the same textbooks—an equal opportunity for an education. The rich parents who have but one child probably pay ten times as much school tax as the poor parents with six children. More than this, the children of the rich parents and of the poor parents, of every race and rank sit together, study together, play together in the same school Is not the school thus making a tremendous contribution toward that equality which we value so highly in our American way of life? Does not this equality in education make for equality in every realm of life?

Our public schools fill an important and essential place in our national life—a place no other institution can fill. They are well established in the thought and affection of the American people. Whatever

their faults, weaknesses, deficiencies may be—and they have them—we are going to remedy them, but we are not going to discard our great American public school system.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

Rev. J. Renwick Patterson

Your help is needed to accomplish the task for which the book "Our Public Schools, Christian or Secular" is intended. John Dewey is dead, but his philosophy lives on, deeply intrenched in the conscious or sub-conscious minds of those to whom we have entrusted the education of our youth, and particularly in the thinking of those who work out the courses of instruction, prepare the text-books, train the teachers and supervise in general our whole educational program. He threw the Bible and its God out the window and introduced in its place his trial and error philosophy of pragmatism and applied it practically in his theories of progressive education. Denying that there is any ultimate truth, any absolute authority, or that there is any validity to religious experience, he made it his thesis that everything must be based on human reason and experimentation.

A Damaging Philosophy

With this philosophy our early concepts of the foundations of public education have been undermined and the floodgates of a purely secular program for the education of our youth have been thrown open wide. This philosophy has been devastating in its effects. The Bible, religion and morality have largely departed from our public education and our schools and colleges have been under the control of concepts that are purely materialistic, secular and frequently atheistic. Evolutionary theories are presented as if they were established scientific facts whereas the doctrine of creation, if alluded to at all, is portrayed as myth or superstition.

To offset this damaging philosophy which has become so deeply rooted in our educational system today, pressure must be brought to bear upon those who are responsible for the program of our public schools. Many of our educators are ignorant of the real facts pertaining to the history of public education in America—many of them assume that our schools have always been secular—were intended to be that way from the beginning, and that the Bible and religion in our public schools is something entirely foreign to our American tradition.

A Timely Book

"Our Public Schools, Christian or Secular" deals with facts, not with theories. Our public schools as they were in the beginning are carefully examined and held up for observation. How they are now different and the factors which brought about this difference are factually considered, and the effects of this change upon American life are exhibited. The results are seen in our lowering moral and spiritual standards, in increased crime and delinquency and in the alarming waves of personal and political corruption that are sweeping over our nation.

This book needs to be distributed widely over America so as to secure the largest possible number of readers. It needs to be placed in the hands of superintendents, principals and teachers. It needs to be introduced to school boards and Parent Teachers Associations. It needs to be placed in public libraries and in the classrooms of Teacher's Colleges and Normal Schools. It needs to be placed in the hands of those who write our textbooks and who plan our curriculum.

What You Can Do

Your help is solicited in this enormous task. See that this program is carried out in your community. Be willing to sacrifice personally that this may be done. Purchase copies of the book, one, two, three or a dozen (one man secured fifty copies) and personally see that they are placed in your community where they will do the most good. Be sure that your pastor has a copy. Help to form teams or committees who will extend this work. Organize "Bible in the School Clubs" in your community. Make this not a sporadic but a continuous drive. With this kind of help and cooperation an impact can be made upon America that will be felt, that will secure results, that will sweep the damaging philosophy of John Dewey from our public schools and return us to the true foundations upon which our public education was originally founded and which are so essential if America is to remain "the land of the free and the home of the brave," who look to our Father's God as the "Author of Liberty."

The letter which follows shows what the President of Benton College and Seminary, Manitou Springs, Colo., thinks of the book, and the use he intends to make of it in his institution.

Dear Dr. Martin:

I am exceedingly grateful to you for your splendid book "Our Public Schools, Christian or Secular" which this library has received with your compliments.

We shall use this text in our Christian Education courses and I am sure that we shall find the book exceedingly worthwhile.

Again thanking you, I am

Very sincerely yours,

President Fred E. Stemme

A considerable number of letters have already come to our office in high praise of this book. The price is $2.00 a copy. Orders should be sent directly to the National Reform Association, 209 Ninth St., Pittsburgh 22, Pa.

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TOBACCO—AN ADDICTING DRUG

At the recent General Conference of the Methodist Church the issue of whether the Church should continue its ban on smoking by its ministers was debated. To its credit, we believe, the Conference voted to continue the ban. This was done on the basis of the minister's unique position as one set apart for a special task as a servant of God.

In reporting on the debate over this issue The Christian Advocate states: "The evils of tobacco were never more eloquently set forth than by a lay delegate of the Conference who is also a physician, Hammell P. Shipps of Delanco, N. J. It quotes him as follows:

"The use of tobacco is not merely a habit; it is a drug addiction. Tobacco is a poison, and it is becoming a major health problem in America today. I speak not only as a Christian layman, but as a physician, knowing something of the effect of tobacco upon the organs and vital functions of the body.

"Not many months ago, at a meeting of the American College of Surgeons, one of the outstanding vascular surgeons in America stated that the tobacco habit in America had become almost as serious as the opium habit was a generation ago in China. And he went on to show its effect in production of gangrene of the extremities in those boys who had been exposed to cold on the Korean battlefields.

"Tobacco's influence in heart disease has been known for years, as well as its influence in the production of stomach ulcers, and I can mention other things, like hyperthyroidism. But in recent years our thoracic surgeons have incriminated it as the cause of the alarming increase in lung cancer. I refer you to the journal of the American Medical association of Mar. 1, in which the Ochsner clinic made quite an elaborate case in that respect, and they prophesy how many cases we will have due to the increase in smoking."

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN TEMPERANCE PROGRAM

Under the able leadership of Mrs. W. J. Harper McKnight, Chairman of the Temperance Education Committee of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church, temperance education is being advanced in that denomination.

Mrs. McKnight, who is also Temperance and Reform Secretary of the Women's Board, was instrumental in promoting and securing passage by the 1951 Assembly of a recommendation for an "enlarged denominational program of alcohol education."

In January, 1952, Mrs. McKnight represented her denomination at the annual meeting of The National Prohibition and Temperance Council in Washington, D. C., where she also attended the hearing on the Johnson-Case bill, S-2444, to prevent the advertising of distilled spirits on radio and television, and gave her testimony in defense of this bill.

Recommendations presented by her committee and adopted by the Assembly this year were: "(1) that the temperance education program of the denomination be continued with the understanding that the program will again be underwritten to the extent of $3,000 by the Woman's Board; (2) that a denominational Commitment Day be again held preferably the first Sabbath of Lent; (3) that one hour be given to the Committee on Temperance Education for the report and presentation of a nationally known speaker."

The committee was continued. —J. R. P.

AMERICA ON HER KNEES

A clipping from NEWSWEEK magazine showing Uncle Sam on his knees with uplifted face to heaven was placed in the Congressional Record of July 7, 1952, by Honorable Lawrence H. Smith of Wisconsin with the statement that "the thought and sentiment expressed should lodge in the heart of every citizen." The clipping had appeared as an advertisement through the courtesy of the Conrad W. Hilton Hotels Corporation, and is as follows:

America on its knees: not beaten there by the hammer and sickle, but freely, intelligently, responsibly, confidently, powerfully. America now knows it can destroy communism and win the battle for peace. We need fear nothing or no one, except God.

Our Father in Heaven, we pray that You save us from ourselves. The world that You have made for us, to live in peace, we have made into an armed camp. We live in fear of war to come. We are afraid of "the terror that flies by night, and the arrow that flies by day; the pestilence that walks in darkness, and the destruction that wastes at noonday." We have turned from You to go our selfish way. We have broken Your commandments and denied Your truth. We have left Your altars to serve the false gods of money and pleasure and power. Forgive us

and help us.

Now, darkness gathers around us and we are confused in all our counsels. Losing faith in You, we lose faith in ourselves. Inspire us with wisdom, all of us of every color, race, and creed, to use our wealth, our strength to help our brother, instead of destroying him. Help us to do Your will as it is done in heaven and to be worthy of Your promise of peace on earth. Fill us with new faith, new strength, and new courage, that we may win the battle for peace. Be swift to save us, dear God, before the darkness falls.

THE CHRISTIAN CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

Rev. E. M. Hertzler began full-time service September first as Field Secretary of The Christian Citizens Association, a new organization, affiliated with the National Reform Association, which is in the process of formation to carry forward work in local communities along lines similar to those now carried on by the National Reform Association. For the present this organization's work will be largely in the State of Ohio. Local units, mostly on a county-wide basis, are being formed to give attention first to local problems, then to state and national problems. Preliminary work has already been done in four or five counties and this number will be increased from time to time. The following is a brief outline of what this Association is, its purpose, objectives and methods of work.

It is an undenominational and nonsectarian organization of Christian Citizens seeking to maintain and promote Christian principles in our civil government and national life through local, state, and national units, organized to promote moral reforms on a Christian basis.

Its purpose briefly stated is the Christianizing of our local, state, and national governmental life.

The Association endeavors to unite Christian Citizens in defense of desirable Christian features in the life of the community, the state, and the nation; and promotes such reforms as needed in these areas.

Specifically, the Association is concerned with the leading moral issues of the day in local, state, and national life. Such as:—

1. The Liquor Problem.
2. Gambling and Vice, and its consequent and related problems of crime and immorality.
3. Christian vs. Secular Education in the Public Schools.
4. The Christian Sabbath and the civil laws that undergird it.
5. Christian Standards in Family Life, and the divorce problem.
6. Public Obscenity and Indecency in Periodicals, Television, and Radio.
7. International Peace on a Christian basis.

The Association promotes the above objectives.

1. By education through public addresses and forums, by the publication and distribution of leaflets, pamphlets, and other pertinent materials.
2. By pressing for the enactment and maintenance of those laws which will make the needed reforms effective.

The Association makes its program effective through its organization of local units through which it can approach needed reform measures at the grass roots.

The Association provides authoritative speakers to discuss the issues of the day from the pulpit, the public platform, and wherever opportunity affords.

The Association supports legislation in the interests of Christian reforms and opposes contrary legislation.

The Association provides a unique, "one package," program which covers all the leading moral reforms of our day; thus avoiding duplication of organization and unnecessary overhead expenses. IT RELATES AND UNIFIES REFORM EFFORTS; and therefore, affords an opportunity for all those specifically interested in a Christian reform movement to work unitedly in their behalf.

Mr. Hertzler is not without experience in this field of Christian work. He was formerly a Field Secretary of the National Reform Association, and his work was largely confined to the State of Ohio and consisted in arranging for the study of the Bible by classes in several grades in the public schools. As a result of his work more than 40,000 pupils were receiving this instruction one period each week. Following this he spent two years or more as a Field Secretary of his own church (The Church of the Brethren) in the State of Ohio. Thus Mr. Hertzler comes to this new work with a thorough knowledge of National Reform principles and of the work he is now undertaking, and with a wide acquaintanceship throughout the State of Ohio, and also with a singular devotion to the cause of Christian government.

For information write Rev. E. M. Hertzler, Field Secretary, P. O. Box 147, Marion, Ohio.

THE REVISED BIBLE

J. R. P.

Hailed as "the biggest project in book publishing history," the new "Revised Standard Version of the Holy Bible" is due from the presses September 30, 1952 and will be placed on sale on that date so as to coincide with Christian Education Week, September 28 to October 5. Plans are being made for simultaneous observances to be held in 3,000 communities on September 30, heralding the printing of almost 1,000,000 volumes in this First Edition of the completed revision.

The Bible reading public has already been introduced to the first part of this gigantic task, The

New Testament, which appeared in 1946. This first portion of the work has been both highly praised and severely criticized. Only time can tell whether or not this version will be generally accepted by churches and Bible readers and come into common usage as did the King James Version which was completed in 1611 and has held first place throughout the English speaking world for over three centuries.

John Wycliff was the original translator of the Bible into the English language from the Latin Vulgate. It is to William Tyndale, however, that we look for the first direct translation into the English language from the original Hebrew and Greek. His New Testament of 1535 was to become the basis of all later revisions. Accused of perverting the meaning of the Scriptures, a charge frequently directed at translators, he was burned at the stake in 1536 before he had completed the Old Testament. His work, however, became the basis of all later English Versions except for the Douay Bible, a Roman Catholic Version made directly from the Latin Vulgate, and the Revised Version and the American Standard Version where the most ancient manuscripts then available were consulted in the revision.

Other English Versions, following the work of William Tyndale, were the Coverdale Bible, prepared and published by Miles Coverdale in 1535; the Matthews Bible, thought to have been the work of John Rodgers, 1537; the Great Bible, 1539; The Geneva Bible, 1560; The Bishops Bible, 1568; The Douay Bible, 1582; the King James or Authorized Version, 1611; The Revised Version 1881-1884; and the American Standard Version, 1900-1901. While English translations and versions followed one another in rather rapid succession from 1535 through 1611, the "Revised Standard Version of the Holy Bible" is only the third English Version to appear since 1611, when the King James Version was first published.

Since then many English words have become obsolete or their meanings have changed. Many manuscripts dating back much nearer the originals have been discovered. The translators in 1611 had but a dozen or so medieval manuscripts whereas today's revisers have available hundreds of old manuscripts far antedating those of the King James group and they have also the light of recent archeological findings thrown upon the meaning of Old Testament Hebrew and New Testament Greek. They had far better material with which to work than had the earlier translators and revisers. Whether or not they have used their materials accurately or well, we will not presume to judge. If one is looking for perfection, the new Revision will be disappointing. It has some faults. There is also much that may be said in its favor.

If the translators sought as did those of the Authorized Version, "to make a good one better, or out of many good ones, one principal good one," then the fruits of their labors are worthy of careful study and appraisal. The verdict is in the hands of time.

TOBACCO ADVERTISING

The tobacco companies, like the beverage alcohol companies are not interested in the physical effects of their product upon people. Their interest is in profits—in wider usage—in increased sales. They spend millions of dollars annually to this end.

Figures gathered from "Advertising Age", June 23, 1952, indicate that exclusive of those companies spending less than $25,000 in newspaper advertising, a total of $15,938,000 was spent by the tobacco companies in this media alone.

A breakdown of the expenditures in advertising by four leading tobacco companies in the four media of newspapers, magazines, radio and television, with totals, is given in the following chart. This does not include the amounts spent in any other media such as billboards, counter and window displays, transit-ads, etc., etc.:

We do not have the data at hand of all advertising expenditures over all media by the tobacco companies but from the figures available it is very conservatively estimated that at least $75,000,000 is spent annually in tobacco advertising and very probably the actual figure is much higher than this conservative estimate.

The Bureau of Agriculture Economics in its annual Tobacco Outlook Report for 1951 says that the 1952 output in cigarets will exceed the 1951 record output of 412,000,000,000 cigarets. On these the puffers will pay an average of 5% more per pack. It is amazing how many millions of dollars the American people puff up in smoke each year—incense to the goddess, Nicotine.—J. R. P.

	Newspapers	Magazines	Radio	TV	Total
R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co.	$ 3,732,634	$ 2,725,108	$ 3,193,134	$ 4,988,665	$14,639,665
American Tobacco Co.	2,927,950	3,576,554	3,302,906	2,975,957	12,783,367
Liggett & Myers Tobacco Co.	263,105	2,336,835	5,337,327	3,529,136	11,466,403
Philip Morris & Co., Ltd.	2,807,278	408,656	4,465,272	1,614,180	9,295,386
	9,730,967	9,037,153	16,398,639	13,107,398	48,184,697

Exit of the Post-War Narcotics Boom

Rev. J. Renwick Patterson

The vicious narcotics traffic which lifted its bared fangs to strike at the youth of America following the close of World War II, after showing a general trend for a generation toward extinction, has been forced by the recently enacted Boggs Act which was signed by the President last November 2nd, to beat a hasty retreat from the field. The post war boom in the narcotics traffic which created so much alarm a year or two ago has ended. Indications are that the problem will continue to become less and less as time goes on.

For several years Harry J. Anslinger, Commissioner of Narcotics, has been seeking for a law requiring mandatory long term sentences for peddlers, especially for second and third offenders. Back in 1930 when the Federal Bureau of Narcotics was established with Commissioner Anslinger as its head, sentences averaged two and a half years. By 1951 the average had dropped to about eighteen months.

Under the new law, the Boggs Act with its stiff penalties, a minimum of five years is required for the second offense and ten years for the third. With such mandatory sentences even the enormous profits realized in the illicit narcotics traffic are not sufficient to entice many hoodlums to run the risk of conviction. One of the filthiest heroin sellers in the business recently told a Narcotics Bureau agent that he had left the racket because it had gotten too hot for him. He volunteered the information that he was now going to put his money into the midget auto racing game.

Downward Trend

This does not mean that the narcotics traffic has been liquidated but it means that its back has been broken and if cities, states and the federal government continue to extend their war on illicit drugs, the whole racket will dwindle to the vanishing point.

1949, 1950 and 1951 showed an upsurge which peaked in 1950 and dropped in 1951. In 1930 there

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BILLY GRAHAM IN PITTSBURGH

Coming directly from great evangelistic crusades in Washington, D. C., Houston, Texas, Jackson, Miss., where in recent months more than a million and a half persons attended the meetings, Billy Graham and his Evangelistic Team have come to Pittsburgh. The crusade here will be in progress Sept. 7 through Oct. 5. The meetings are being held currently in the Hunt Armory nightly, except Monday, at 7:30 p.m., and with services each Lord's Day at 3:00 p.m. only. Over ten thousand were present for the opening service, which, we understand, is the record for any opening service thus far in his program.

We of the National Reform Association have followed with much interest and prayer the work of Billy Graham from the beginning and we are particularily gratified by the saneness of his approach and the grasp he has of evangelism as an application of the Gospel to the whole realm of life—to the salvation of the individual and to the reformation of society.

We shall continue to pray with him that "we may see God do an increasing work in our midst; even unleash His mighty power in revival to shake this city, this state and this nation from center to circumference."—J. R. P.

NEW LIQUOR GRAPHS BEING PRINTED

200,000 Liquor Graphs of complete new layout, color and design, containing the very latest facts and figures available are now coming off the press.

Of these Liquor Graphs, prepared and published by the National Reform Association, 100,000 are being printed for the W. C. T. U. of Pennsylvania and will carry their imprint. These are for use within Pennsylvania and may be secured by addressing the Women's Christian Temperance Union of Pennsylvania, 220 Pine St., Harrisburg, Pa.

An additional 25,000 of the Pennsylvania Graph, bearing the imprint of the National Reform Association, are being printed for the use of our own Association.

In addition, 50,000 copies of an Ohio Liquor Graph are being printed for the Christian Citizens Association. These may be secured by addressing Rev. E. M. Hertzler, Field Secretary, P. O. Box 147, Marion, Ohio.

Also we are having printed 25,000 copies of a National Liquor Graph of similar layout and design but containing only facts that are of national interest and for use anywhere in any state. These will bear our own imprint and may be secured by addressing The National Reform Association, 209 Ninth St., Pittsburgh 22, Pa., or from the Christian Citizens Association, P. O. Box 147, Marion, Ohio. The price for these various Liquor Graphs is $2.00 per hundred.

EXIT OF THE POST WAR NARCOTICS BOOM

(Continued from page 7)

were 4,962 narcotic law convictions. This dropped off until in 1945 there were only 1,120. In 1950 the number had risen to 3,247 and dropped again in 1951 to 3,042.

That the trend is downward is also indicated by the decrease in admissions to the two Public Health Service Hospitals maintained by the Federal Government for the treatment of addicts—one at Lexington, Kentucky, which is almost wholly for addicts, and one at Fort Worth, Texas which has facilities for the treatment of a limited number. Recently there were about 150 beds vacant in these hospitals. There is no charge for treatment and the government will even pay the cost of transportation, at least one way, for voluntary patients. The general public is not well informed of this service and that may have something to do with accounting for the number of beds now available. Of those receiving treatment at Lexington four or five months ago there were fewer than 100 patients in the under 21 years of age group. During 1951, about 351 juveniles were admitted there.

The amount of narcotic drugs seized or purchased as evidence by Narcotics Bureau agents reached an all time high of 71,151 ounces in 1922. By 1948 this average had falen to an all time low of 844 ounces. It rose to 1,726 ounces in 1949, fell somewhat in 1950 and fell still further in 1951 to 1,082 ounces.

That the supply lines of heroin, the modern addicts favorite narcotic, are running low is indicated by the manner in which the illicit stuff is being cut and adulterated by the peddlers. Back in 1949 it was running about 70 or 80% pure. Now it is cut with milk-sugar, quinine, barbituates, etc., until it runs seldom over 20% pure and is frequently found as low as 1% to 3% pure. The price however remains the same.

The Tremendous Mark-Up

Two pounds of heroin in Italy may cost from $1,000 to $1,500. When it has been successfully smuggled into this country, it is worth from $6,000 to $10,000. This is cut and adulterated to make a million caps which sell for about $1.00 each, sometimes for as much as $2.00 or $3.00 each. Thus the stuff retails at the rate of about $1,000 on the $1.00 of the original investment. With the stuff cut as it is today, it is possible that without intending to do so, the peddlers may be curing a lot of addicts by the process of the gradual removal of the drug through diminishing doses.

The picture is immensely brighter now than it was at the beginning of the century, and that despite the fact that we now have in our midst between 50,000 and 60,000 addicts. May we interject here that alcohol creates a far greater addiction problem in this country than any other narcotic drug. We have about 4,000,000 alcoholics in the U. S., 1,000,000 of which are in the last stages of alcoholism. For every one addicted to other narcotics in this country we have 60 or more chronically addicted to alcohol, the one just as unfit to take his place in society as the other.

In 1909 when the population was only about one-third what it is now, there were 628,177 pounds of narcotics imported into the United States. Today there are only about 350,000 pounds imported annually. The world's needs for opium for medicinal and scientific purposes amounts to between 400 and 500 tons annually. Actually production has recently amounted to about 3,000 tons a year, the surplus finding its way into the illicit market.

With stronger measures being enacted by producing countries to limit production to medicinal and scientific needs, the effect is being reflected in the diminishing supply for the illicit trade.

The Federal Bureau has been hampered considerably in the past by insufficient funds and too few agents. Last year Congress provided more funds which made posible the taking on of 87 additional agents, increasing the force to a total of 270.

State and Local Cooperation

Along with these measures, there has been an increasing effort on the part of state and local communities to wipe out the drug menace. Commissioner Anslinger mentions Baltimore, Los Angeles, Pittsburgh and St. Louis in particular as cities which have taken effective measures to wipe out the traffic, and where recently serious problems have been whipped.

On the week end of January 4, 1952, the Federal Bureau of Narcotics with its enlarged force, and wielding the Boggs Act, swept down on nearly 500 peddlers all over the country, bringing a crushing blow to the racket. Information at hand indicates that 25% of these have already been convicted and sentenced under the stiff Boggs Act penalties, and many other convictions are expected to follow.

While the post-war narcotics boom has ended, there must be no relaxation of effort to keep it under control. No social evil may ever be regarded as solved once and for all, for the moment there is relaxation of vigilance, at that moment it will reappear.

But that the traffic has been curbed ought to give encouragement. The most vicious of the underworld hoodlums have engaged in the narcotics traffic but strong laws vigorously and honestly enforced have proven more than these hoodlums can stand. Government and society can cope equally well with any similar problem if the citizenry itself becomes sufficiently aroused and if law enforcement agencies will keep fearlessly active and on the job.